

Albert E. Blumberg, legislative director of the Communist Party, USA, who was convicted under the Smith Act of 1940, called for "sharply increased Negro representation in conventions, Congressional and other posts."34

The communist press hailed the appointment of J. Ernest Wilkins, an Assistant Secretary of Labor, as the "first time in history a Negro has been appointed to a sub-Cabinet post in the United States Government."35 But the communist press deplored the fact that in 1955 "there is still just one Negro judge in the entire federal court setup," suggesting that "it is time to revive pressure for a Negro U. S. Supreme Court judge when a vacancy occurs, as well as Negro federal judges at all levels."36

The fight for increased Negro representation includes the demands for:

"...abolition of the poll tax, federal protection of the right to register and vote, passage of an anti-lynching bill, and reduction of Congressional representation of States which deliberately disfranchise Negroes..."37

Although the Party proposes to conduct this struggle on a nationwide basis, its main emphasis is in the Southern States where Negro representation is disproportionate.* Pettis Perry, chairman of the national

*According to population.